

**REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

This Amendment is being submitted pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 41.33(a), after the Notice of Appeal was filed on December 22, 2006 but before an Appeal Brief is filed. This Amendment addresses the Examiner's claim objection in his September 11, 2006 Final Office Action by amending Claims 14 and 53 to correct certain informalities described below. Applicant respectfully submits that this Amendment is in compliance with 37 C.F.R. § 41.33(a) and requests entry of the foregoing amendments.

Upon entry of this Amendment, Claims 1, 5, 13, 14, 23, 27, 29-31, 37, 42-47, 51-59 and 63-66 remain pending in the present application and on appeal. The Panel Decision from the Pre-Appeal Brief Review dated February 2, 2007 continues to maintain the rejection of Claims 1, 5, 13, 14, 23, 27, 29-31, 37, 42-47, 51-59 and 63-66, and has reset the time period for filing the Appeal Brief to be March 2, 2007, one month from the February 2, 2007 mailing date of the Notice.

**Claim Objections:**

In the September 11, 2006 Final Office Action, the Examiner objected to Claims 14 and 53 for reciting "said tension member is comprised of tension bolts" and stated that it would appear that a "tension member" is comprised of a tension bolt. (Sept. 11, 2006 Final Office Action, at 2). In response, the foregoing amendments incorporate the Examiner's suggested correction in Claims 14 and 53. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the foregoing amendments be entered and the Examiner's objections to Claims 14 and 53 be withdrawn.

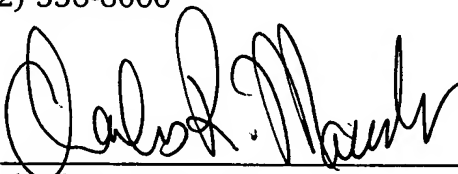
Appl. Ser. No. 10/625,102  
Amdt. dated Feb. 21, 2007  
Reply to Office Action of Sept. 11, 2006

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No fees or extensions of time are believed to be due in connection with filing of this Amendment. However, authorization is given hereby to charge Deposit Account No. 01-1785 for any fees necessary for filing of this Amendment or preserving the pendency of the subject application.

Respectfully submitted,

AMSTER, ROTHSTEIN & EBENSTEIN LLP  
Attorneys for Applicant  
90 Park Avenue  
New York, NY 10016  
(212) 336-8000

By:   
Charles R. Macedo  
Registration No.: 32,781

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